## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 FAA-00 DOTE-00 AGR-05

ABF-01 FS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 A-01

OPR-02 FBO-02 OC-05 CCO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 /081 W ------ 000103

O R 101642Z JUL 75 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 130 INFO USIA WASHDC AMCONSUL KADUNA AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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USIA/IAA FOR DAWSON

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

DEPT PASS AID, FAA, FAS/USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, PFOR, NI

SUBJECT: FMG AND EMBASSY ANNEX

REF: LAGOS 6488

1. SUMMARY: PRESS TODAY REPORTS WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS EMBASSY ANNEX. HEADLINES CONTINUE TO DESCRIBE SITUATION IN CONFROMTATION TERMS. DAILY TIMES CARRIED "FMG OFFICIAL RELEASE" EXPLAINING REASONS FOR ACTION AND INACCURATELY CLAIMING AMBASSADOR HAD MADE "PASSIONATE APPEAL" TO REMOVE TROOPS AND PROMISED TO MOVE OUT OF ANNEX "IMMEDIATELY". END SUMMARY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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2. DIALY PRESS CONTINUES FRONT PAGE PLAY FMG/EMBASSY NEGOTIATIONS OVER ANNEX BUILDING IN CONFRONTATION TERMS. DAILY TIMES HEADLINES "GOVERNMENT REMAINS TOUGH ON US" IN STORY WHICH TALKS OF BRIGADIER OBASANJO'S ULTIMATUM AND CONTINUING EFFORTS TO GET U.S.G. TO MOVE OUT OF ANNEX BUILDING. NIGERIAN OBSERVER HEADLINES "USIS DEFIES FMG'S ORDER". NEW NIGERIAN IN ITS STORY CITES MEA OFFICIAL AS HAVING CONFIRMED LENGTHY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN HIS MINISTRY AND EMBASSY OVER FMG REQUEST THAT U.S. AGENCIES VACATE ANNEX BUILDING. STORY SAYS THAT U.S. "OFFICIALS" HAD "COMPLAINED" ABOUT PRESENCE OF TROOPS AT USIS PREMISES, ADDING THAT "THEY (AMERICANS) WERE SATISFIED AFTER AN EXPLANATION TO THE EFFECT (SIC) HAD BEEN GIVEN THEM."

3. DAILY TIMES PUBLISHES STATEMENT "FMG ISSUED YESTERDAY" ON THE RSASONS FOR SENDING TROOPS TO OCCUPY GROUNDS OF ANNEX. RELEASE GAVE FMG SIDE OF NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE AND CONCLUDED THAT "DECISION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER PROPERTY REMAINS UNALTERED...BUT IN LIGHT OF THE PASSIONATE APPEAL MADE AND THE ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE US AMBASSADOR TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT THE AGENCIES CONCERNED WOULD MOVE OUT IMMEDIATELY, THE TROOPS NOW ON GUARD DUTY IN THE PREMISES ARE BEING WITHDRAWN".

4. COMMENT: IN MEETING AT MEA JULY 1- DCM WAS ASSURED STATEMENT PARA 3 ABOVE WAS NOT OFFICIAL FMG RELEASE, HAD NOT BEEN CLEARED THROUGH USUAL CHANNELS AND MEA HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF IT BEFORE SEEING NEWSPAPERS. WE BELIEVE STATEMENT WAS PUT OUT BY BRIGADIER OBASANJO TO SAVE HIS FACE AND EXPLAIN BOTH OCCUPATION OF ANNEX COURTYARD AND TROOP WITHDRAWAL. AMBASSADOR DID NOT REPEAT NOT OF COURSE MAKE "PASSIONATE APPEAL", RATHER HE MADE A FIRM ORAL PROTEST. "PASSIONATE" WAS IN FACT PERMANENT SECRETARY IYALLA'S DESCRIPTION OF HIS OWN EFFORTS "ON BEHALF OF THE MEBASSY" TO OBTAIN REMOVAL OF TROOPS AT YESTERDAY'S CABINET MEETING. FURTHER, AMBASSADOR DID NOT REPEAT NOT "PROMISE" U.S. AGENCIES WOULD MOVE OUT "IMMEDIATELY", BUT RATHER AGREED TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON CONDITIONS FOR THE MOVE.

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: MILITARY OCCUPATION, EMBASSIES, NEGOTIATIONS

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Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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